Re: Participation in MCAC’s License Plate Recognition (LPR) System

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]

Please allow me to address your concerns regarding the Baltimore Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Enforcement and Removal Operations’ (ICE/ERO) submission of license plate information into, and use of, MCAC’s LPR system. As MCAC’s Information Bulletin announcing a new “ICE/ERO” alarm highlights, ERO is submitting license plate information for informational purposes only, to investigate the whereabouts of individuals identified by ICE as priority removal cases: Aliens who pose a danger to national security or risk to public safety, individuals with final orders of removal who have absconded (ICE fugitives) and who have outstanding warrants of removal in the NCIC system, previously-removed individuals who have illegally reentered the U.S. and who are also subject to criminal prosecution for illegal reentry, and other individuals who have serious criminal convictions and who are amenable to removal.

Much like the FBI’s Violent Gang and Terrorist File lookout submissions and NCIC’s sex offender registry lookout submissions, ICE/ERO officers would use MCAC LPR “hits” for investigative follow-up purposes, not as prompts for other law enforcement agencies to detain or arrest individuals. Although the warrants tied to some of ICE-ERO’s priority cases are not criminal warrants, there is precedent for entering lookouts in MCAC’s LPR system for administrative sanctions as well. For example, the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration submits license plate information to MCAC from their suspended/revoked driver’s license, suspended registration, and EZPass violators lists.

Regarding the source of the license plate information, ERO’s fugitive operations officers identify vehicles owned by priority case individuals as a routine part of their investigations into the whereabouts of these individuals. Each license plate is tied to a priority case by an ERO officer investigating the backgrounds of individuals identified as priority removal cases. Furthermore, the license plate information and the priority cases tied to that information will be reviewed by one of ICE/ERO’s fugitive operations supervisors prior to submission to MCAC to ensure that all information is accurate and that the related cases conform to ICE/ERO’s identified priorities.
Please contact me if you have any additional questions or concerns regarding Baltimore ICE/ERO's proposed participation in MCAC's LPR system. In particular, we can further discuss the types of cases that ICE ERO intends to submit to MCAC if you wish to do so. Baltimore ICE/ERO sees our participation not only as our use of a valuable investigative tool, but also as a way to assist other law enforcement agencies in Maryland with fulfilling their respective law enforcement duties to the public.

Sincerely,

Calvin McCormick
Field Office Director
From: Assistant Field Office Director  
Response Coordination  
Baltimore Field Office

Office: (410) 637  
Cell: (410) 365  
Fax: (410) 637-4003

Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2012 9:17 AM  
To: RE: Wednesday's ATAC meeting  
Attachments: MCAC LPR letter.pdf

Here's a copy of the letter from Calvin. I'm mailing it today.

Thanks for your help,

From: Wednesday, June 20, 2012 12:24 PM  
To: RE: Wednesday's ATAC meeting

Here is the letter with my comments. This appears to be sufficient, but I added just a few very small edits that may help. Also, the letter should be from Calvin to:

Chief Intelligence Officer  
Homeland Security Investigations, Baltimore  
Assistant Director, PPRD  
Maryland Coordination and Analysis Center  
(202) 373

From: Tuesday, June 19, 2012 5:13 PM  
To: Re: Wednesday's ATAC meeting

Thanks sounds good.
Sorry, I wasn’t able to look at this today. I believe the ATAC Executive Committee meeting was earlier today. The next one should be on July 17th. I don’t see where there would be a problem with you being there. In fact, it may help.

Chief Intelligence Officer
Homeland Security Investigations, Baltimore
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
Assistant Director, PPRD
Maryland Coordination and Analysis Center
(202) 373

What are your thoughts on me attending the meeting? Is it closed to just the members?

Thanks. I'll look this over in the morning.
I've attached a draft letter to (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) addressing his concerns. Please let me know what you think and if you have any edits. I will be out tomorrow, so please e-mail (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) with any edits. I can also ask Calvin if he would prefer to send this letter, if you think it would be better received by (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) and ATAC.

I would like to attend Wednesday’s ATAC meeting if that is possible to answer any additional questions they may have. I will be out tomorrow but reachable on the Blackberry, so please call or e-mail me at your convenience.

Thank you,

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

Assistant Field Office Director
Response Coordination
Baltimore Field Office

Office: (410) 637-3300
Cell: (410) 365-3300
Fax: (410) 637-4003
Re: Participation in MCAC's License Plate Recognition (LPR) System

Dear [Name],

[Redacted]

Sincerely,

[Signature]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]
Sincerely,

(b)(5)

Assistant Field Office Director
Response Coordination
Call my cell, 410-365-6387.

----- Original Message -----  
From: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)  
Sent: Tuesday, May 29, 2012 04:57 PM  
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)  
Subject: Re: MCAC LPR

OK. What's a good number?

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Field Intelligence Director  
Homeland Security Investigations, Baltimore U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Assistant Director, PPRD  
Maryland Coordination and Analysis Center  
(202) 373-(b)(6)

----- Original Message -----  
From: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)  
Sent: Tuesday, May 29, 2012 04:51PM  
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)  
Subject: Re: MCAC LPR

Absolutely. I have a 2 PM conference call but nothing else scheduled. Call me when you can.

----- Original Message -----  
From: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)  
Sent: Tuesday, May 29, 2012 04:12PM  
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)  
Subject: Re: MCAC LPR

I'm in and out of meetings, so scheduling is tricky. Can I call you tomorrow?

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Field Intelligence Director  
Homeland Security Investigations, Baltimore U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Assistant Director, PPRD  
Maryland Coordination and Analysis Center  
(202) 373-(b)(6)
I'm out of the office today. Would tomorrow work?

----- Original Message -----­
From: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Sent: Tuesday, May 29, 2012 02:58 PM
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Subject: MCAC LPR

If you have a few minutes, I would like to discuss the LPR issue with you. I can be reached at 202-373-2(x)(b)(7). I am on travel and in and out of meetings, but this afternoon is good.